

Serial No.: 09/820,552
Attorney Docket No.: 9090.0002-01

20. (Amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions executable by a computer to perform a method to manipulate a map, the method comprising:

selecting a boundary in a geographic region of a first map;

converting the boundary into a corresponding boundary in a second map;

and

displaying the boundary in the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary in the second map in a second area of the display.

REMARKS

This is in reply to the Examiner's Official Action dated October 28, 2002. Claims 1-20 are currently pending. By this Amendment, the specification, and claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-20 have been amended to more appropriately describe and claim the invention. The above amendment with the following remarks are submitted to be fully responsive to the Official Action. Reconsideration of this application in light of these remarks and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

I. Specification

Applicants have corrected minor typographical errors.

II. Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

In paragraph 1 of the Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,487,139 to Saylor et al. (hereinafter, Saylor).

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Claim 1, as amended, recites a method of manipulating a map, comprising: selecting a boundary of a geographic region in a first map; converting the boundary in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary in a second map; and configuring the boundary in the first map for display in a first area of a display and configuring the corresponding boundary in the second map for display in a second area of the display. Claim 18, as amended, recites a method for manipulating a first map and a second map, comprising: selecting a boundary in a geographic region of a first map; converting the boundary in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary in a second map; and displaying the boundary from the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary from the second map in a second area of the display. Claim 20, as amended, similarly recites a computer readable medium containing instructions executable by a computer to perform a method to manipulate a map, the method comprising: selecting a boundary in a geographic region of a first map; converting the boundary into a corresponding boundary in a second map; and displaying the boundary in the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary in the second map in a second area of the display.

In contrast, Saylor discloses a method and system for generating a raster display having expandable graphic representations. In operation, a vector map is aligned and overlaid with a raster map (col. 5, lines 29-31.) The aligned maps provide an X, Y coordinate basis for locating specific addresses within the territory represented by the raster map (col. 6, lines 17-20.)

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Saylor, however, fails to disclose at least a capability to: (1) configure the boundary in a first map for display in a first area of a display and configure the corresponding boundary in a second map for display in a second area of the display; or to (2) display the boundary from the first map in a first area of a display and then display the corresponding boundary from the second map in a second area of the display. Even assuming *arguendo* that Saylor could be modified to display two maps in two different areas of a display, the modification would not be responsive to the problem sought to be addressed by Saylor (i.e., the inability to locate specific addresses on hand-drawn raster maps.) In other words, the entire purpose for overlaying the vector maps over the raster maps in Saylor is to overlay the X, Y coordinates relative to the vector database on the corresponding raster map.

Anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) requires that each and every claim limitation be disclosed by the applied reference. Saylor does not teach each and every claim limitation of claims 1-20 and therefore, as a matter of law, cannot anticipate these claims. That is, Saylor does not teach the process of configuring the boundary in a first map for display in a first area of a display and configure the corresponding boundary in a second map for display in a second area of the display, nor does it teach the process of displaying the boundary from the first map in a first area of a display and then displaying the corresponding boundary from the second map in a second area of the display.

Thus, cited reference fails to reach the teachings of Applicants' device. Applicants have amended claims 1-6, 9-15 and 18-20 to more appropriately describe Applicants' invention. Applicants contend that the claims as amended, still patentably

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distinguish over the prior art. Therefore, the rejection of independent claims 1, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by Saylor should be withdrawn. The rejection of dependent claims 2-17 and 19 should also be withdrawn as they depend on allowable subject matter as recited in the respective independent claims from which they directly or indirectly depend.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest the Applicant's claimed invention. Applicants respectfully assert that the present application is in condition for allowance and request a notice to that effect.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version with markings to show changes made." Deletions appear as normal text surrounded by [] and additions appear as underlined text.

If any extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is required to obtain entry of this response, and not requested by attachment, such extension is hereby requested. If there are any fees due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or 1.17 that are not enclosed, including any fees required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136, please charge those fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the first full paragraph on page 9 of the specification to read as follows:

Figure 4 shows a map manipulation process in accordance with the preferred embodiment. First, the data processing system loads and displays two maps, Map1 and Map2, according to a user selection (step 400). For purposes of this example, assume that Map1 is a digital raster map, and Map2 is a vector map showing substantially the same region. It should be noted that the maps displayed are not required to cover identical geographic regions, as long as they share some geographic area in common. Both maps according [o] to the preferred embodiment, are previously georeferenced. In an alternate embodiment, the system will allow the user to georeference one or both maps, if required.

Please amend the second full paragraph on page 11 of the specification to read as follows:

Certain minor adjustments are required in the display if a region is selected which is not entirely present on one or more of the maps, or if the aspect ratios of the screen display areas devoted to each map are different. In the first case, the system attempts a "best fit" when one map selection included area not found in the other map, and simply displays blank additional area to fill the missing region, so that the map windows

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will be filled and the synchronization of the images maintained. In the second case, the other map can be scaled to reflect the same area, or alternatively one or more of the map windows may be equipped with scroll bars, so that the effective dimensions of the map windows become identical.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-6, 9-15, and 18-20 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of manipulating a map, comprising:

[determining] selecting a boundary of a geographic region [of] in a first map;

converting the boundary [of] in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary [of] in a second map; and

configuring the boundary [of] in the first map for display in a first area of a display and configuring the corresponding boundary in the second map for display in a second area of the display.

2. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein selecting further [comprising the act of] comprises loading [a] the first map.

3. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein selecting further [comprising the act of] comprises loading [a] the second map.

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4. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein configuring further [comprising the act of] comprises displaying the first map.
5. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein configuring further [comprising the act of] comprises displaying the second map.
6. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising [the act of] displaying a first region of the first map[(the first region)] and a second region of the second map[(the second region)], wherein the first region is substantially similar to the second region.
9. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [the boundary] each of said boundaries is associated with a plurality of longitude [coordinate] coordinates and a plurality of latitude [coordinate] coordinates.
10. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein converting further comprises [converts] converting the boundary [of] in the [user-selected] selected geographic region of the first map from a first map coordinate system into an intermediate georeferenced coordinate system[, the intermediate coordinate system being georeferenced].
11. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein converting further comprises associating [associates] a georeferenced coordinate [of] in the first map with a georeferenced coordinate [of] in the second map.

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12. (Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein converting further comprises converting a [transfers] georeferenced coordinate [of] from the first map [to a natural] into an internal coordinate [of] in the second map.

13. (Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving a user [interaction that creates] input to select a new [boundary for] geographic region in the first map.

14. (Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising determining a plurality of georeferenced [coordinate] coordinates for the new [boundary] geographic region.

15. (Amended) The method of claim 13 further comprising [the act of] determining a plurality of georeferenced [coordinate] coordinates for [the] a new boundary [of] in the second map, such that the new boundary [coordinate of] coordinates in the second map [corresponds with a] correspond to new boundary [coordinate of] coordinates in the first map.

18. (Amended) A method [in a computer system] for manipulating a first map and a second map, comprising:

[determining] selecting a boundary [of] in a geographic region of a first map;

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converting the boundary [of] in the selected geographic region of the first map into a corresponding boundary [of] in a second map; and

[providing for display] displaying the boundary from the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary [of] from the second map in a second area of the display.

19. (Amended) The method [in the computer system] of claim 18, further comprising:

displaying a first region of the first map [(the first region)], and a second region of the second map [(the second region)], wherein the first region is substantially similar to the second region;

receiving a user [interaction that creates] input to select a new boundary [for] in the first map;

determining [a coordinate] coordinates for the new boundary [of] in the first map; and

determining [a coordinate] coordinates for a new boundary in the second map such that the [coordinate] coordinates for the new boundary in the second map [relates] relate to the new boundary [of] in the first map.

20. (Amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions executable by a computer to perform a method to manipulate a map, the method comprising [whose contents enable map manipulation, by]:

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[determining] selecting a boundary [of] in a geographic region of a first map;

converting the boundary [of the first map] into a corresponding boundary [of] in a second map; and

[providing for display] displaying the boundary in the first map in a first area of a display and displaying the corresponding boundary [of] in the second map in a second area of the display.

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